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NSC REVIEW
COMPLETED

DCI/IC 74-74-2351

18 October 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/DCI/IC
SUBJECT : Terms of Reference for the NSCIC Working Group

1. Attached (Tab A) is a proposed Terms of Reference for the newly constituted NSCIC Working Group which you may wish to table for comment at the Intelligence Panel session planned for 25 October and at the Working Group meeting planned for 30 October.

2. For background information I also have attached (Tab B) the Terms of Reference of the Working Group which were adopted on 13 June 1972. The redraft reflects a different composition of the Working Group and a somewhat different view of its role.

3. The proposed Terms of Reference at Tab A generally reflects efforts which were undertaken in April 1973 to reduce the size of the Working Group, limiting membership to "users" other than the DCI representative.

4. The following problems which arose in 1973 discussions might arise again:

a. Paragraph 5.c. provides that the Working Group can initiate projects. The JCS J-5, then the Working Group representative of the Chairman, JCS, objected to this and was supported by the ASD(I). Their contention was that the Working Group, as a staff agency of the NSCIC, could not act autonomously and could undertake actions only after obtaining appropriate approvals and ratifications from the NSCIC for proposed actions. The NSCIC, however, has been a relatively inactive organization. The 10 October 1974 memorandum from General Scowcroft, arising from the 23 August meeting of the NSCIC, is the only tasking ever provided from the parent committee to the Working Group to initiate projects on its own volition.

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b. Paragraph 6.g. is an addition to the Terms of Reference approved in 1972. It was proposed in 1973 that the Working Group be authorized to send to the NSCIC Chairman or to the DCI, with recommendations for appropriate action, such studies accomplished under Working Group auspices which it was considered did not require consideration by the full NSCIC or the issuance of guidance by the NSCIC. This was opposed by the JCS J-5, and the ASD(I) joined in this objection. Their position was that anything coming from the Working Group should have the approval of the NSCIC. My view is that the Working Group may come up with reports on which there are no action recommendations and that, for informational use, the Working Group should be able to disseminate such studies to organizations which would find them useful. I do not consider this is a major matter and it might well be handled on a case-by-case basis as the Working Group proceeds with its program, if you'd elect.

5. Paragraph 4.d. of the proposed Terms of Reference provides for the establishment of your Intelligence Panel. I would anticipate no problems with this from other Working Group members.

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Director, Coordination
Staff/Secretariat

Attachments:
As stated

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